

related to John's prophecy, which therefore correlates to the aspect of time. This in itself has been fulfilled as generations of people have looked all over for signs regarding the fulfillment of this prophecy. Some have even given up on searching and vacated the faith altogether. Some preterists teach that John's prophecy regarding 666 was calculated to the emperor Caesar Nero. The problem with that perspective is that many scholars agree that John was exiled to the island of Patmos during the reign of the Roman Emperor Domitian, who came after Nero. This subsequently justifies the conclusion that Revelation was written after the destruction of the temple in AD 70, which is the date that preterists consider the end of biblical prophecy. When looking at **Revelation 11** regarding John being told to measure temple:

1Then I was given a measuring rod like a staff and was told, "Go and measure the temple of God and the altar, and count the number of worshipers there. 2But exclude the courtyard outside the temple. Do not measure it, because it has been given over to the nations, and they will trample the holy city for 42 months. 3And I will empower my two witnesses, and they will prophesy for 1,260 days, clothed in sackcloth."

One can easily regard this as a reference to the Dome of the Rock on the view that this passage is written after 70 AD and refers to a future event. This could also make Sunni and Shia Islam symbolic of the two witnesses mentioned. In Revelation 11: 1-2, the exclusion of the courtyard for measurement seems to infer that it's at the mercy of the nations. In that case, there would be no need to measure the courtyard, if the inside is what is regarded as essential and relevant. Historically, the only notable worship going on inside a temple during the timeframe between AD 70 and now, at the site of where the old temple stood, would be the worship by Muslims in what's now called the Dome of the Rock. This would have been taking place regardless of who occupied Jerusalem. Looking at the

prophecy in this manner gives us a perspective of the Bible being a prognosticator of all major events on Earth; that there is nothing that happens on earth that is outside of the Holy Bible. This would also give some insight into the current conflict between the more fringe extremist elements of Islam and the rest of the world. The controversy of this outlook is that it would mean from the standpoint of the Christian Bible that God is actually allowing all of this conflict to come about from issues related to Extremism. This perspective would also place some moral culpability on those who attack all of Islam for sake of rooting out extremism, as the passage later goes on to say that AFTER the world rejoices when the two witnesses are killed, God raises them up. This would align with how people in the world are currently feeling about Islamic Extremism, and how that factor is often applied to all of Islam. It also provides a possible clue into how the current zeal about a third temple could play out. Such a thought would give some Biblical credence from the aspect of prophecy(not doctrine) to the Islamic Holy Book and its more harsh teachings. It was determined earlier that biblical prophecy encompasses everything.

This further expounding on the argument against the construction of a third temple for Judaism in Israel doesn't disregard the importance of Israel because John mentions that the new Jerusalem will not even have a temple. He mentions this in **Revelation 21: 22**

22 I did not see a temple in the city, because the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple.

It's been covered that significant events which took place in the 20th century, one of which is Israel becoming a nation in 1948, is significant in a biblical sense only as it relates to Jesus and how He describes His

# Timeline of Abrahamic eschatology

